

Excerpts from IPS Doc. 1906. Processed for Defense Counsel pursuant to Order of Court entered 6 Aug. 1946 in the matter of the application of the prosecution to waive Rule 6 (E) (1) in respect to IPS Doc. 1906.

Enclosure No. 4 to despatch No. 1143 of C. F. Gauss, American Consul General at Shanghai, China, dated January 5, 1939, on the subject: "Flag Incident at Wuhu and Conditions there and in Hankow after the Japanese Occupation."

( C O P Y )

Copy of letter received December 23 1937  
from The Rev. H. R. Craighill

Wuhu, December 17, 1937.

Dear Mr. Gilmore:

I have just heard that the SUIWO is about to leave for Shanghai in the near future and so I am writing this aboard the SOARAB which is tied up here for the time being asking that they get this aboard the SUIWO for me.

We've been through some pretty thick stuff during the past few weeks but we have all come through all right, and I believe we are on the up-grade now. Sister Constance, Dr. Janet Anderson, Esther Morse, Lanphour and I have been here at Wuhu through the evacuation and the subsequent occupation by the Japanese. Practically all the population of Wuhu have left with the exception of about 600 refugees in the Sisters' Compound and a few in the Lion Hill Compound, about 1000 in the Manchung Hospital Compound and about 200 in the Wuhu Academy. A large part of the city has been burned and all thoroughly looted, both before and after the occupation.

Our foreign staff have all been living over in the Sisters' Compound and recently we have had only a few servants over at the School Compound. The last two nights soldiers have entered the School Compound and gone through the school, the office, the Bishop's house and David Lee's house but they were looking only for jewelry and women. Fortunately they found neither and little was taken away. They have not entered the St. Louis Compound at night except once and those three soldiers got out in a hurry without doing any damage. A drunken soldier yesterday brandished a sword at Sister Constance at the gate yesterday morning when she was trying to protect the gatekeeper, but in the face of her courage he desisted and no harm came to her or the gatekeeper. This rough lot of soldiers cleared out of the city this morning, and the first lot of military police have arrived and so I hope the worse of our troubles are over.

Dr. Brown, Joe Wharton and I called on the Japanese Consul and the Commanding Officer of the Japanese forces this afternoon and reported the depredations that have occurred. They expressed regret and promised protection.

The City Compound is deserted except for an old gatekeeper, but I have had a report from him that the buildings are all safe though the residences have been picked over for valuables.

The two enclosed messages I prepared several days ago in hopes of getting them off, but no opportunity has been found to get them through. Will you please get them off through naval radio or other available means.

You might make such use as you think advisable of the intrusions on our property and the threat to persons as you think advisable. Perhaps the American Consul General should be notified. At the same time I think he should be told that we declined two offers to evacuate on American gunboats and have stayed at our own risk. We have been flying American flags on the St. Lioba's and St. James' School compounds and for the past five days have had notices from the Japanese military authorities prohibiting soldiers to enter posted on all doors of the two compounds. It was after these notices were posted that soldiers entered the School Compound at night and looted.

I have given to the Commander of the USS GUAM a letter to Harry Taylor telling them what had happened in Wuhu and what they could expect in Ankang if the occupation moves up river. The GUAM could not promise that they could get the message to them for this ship was ordered to proceed to Hankow in a hurry. The only reason we have been able to hold on here in Wuhu is because our compounds are in the suburbs and so have escaped the bombs. I don't think the same would be true of our Ankang compounds if that place were as systematically bombed as this.

I think the storm has pretty well blown over here now and I believe we will be allright from now on.

Please excuse this rather hasty scratch but I didn't want to miss this opportunity to get word to you and to "261" as well as to Hankow and Kuling. If I should have sent this to our new Bishop instead of to our Treasurer I am sure he will forgive me.

My best to you all,

Sincerely,

(Signed) Lloyd R. Graighill

Copied by Sys  
Compared with

TRUE READING

CODE GRAY

DECODED BY AAM

AMEMBASSY

AMEMBASSY

AMEMBASSY

PEIPING

HANKING

HANKOW

January 20, 1938

January 20, 10, a. m.

Following from Tokyo "40 January 19, 7, p. m. Newding's twenty seven January 18, 3, p. m. Illegal entry into American property.

(one) I sent Dooman to see Yoshizawa and to read to him the telegram above mentioned. Dooman then reemphorced in the strongest possible terms the statement which I made to the Minister for Foreign

Affairs (see my thirty four January 17, 1, p. m.)

(two) Yoshizawa said that the Minister for Foreign Affairs had yesterday laid before the Cabinet the note mentioned in my 24, and that a drastic measure to assure compliance by forces in the field with instructions from Tokyo is being considered. He said that he would probably be in a position tomorrow to inform us of the measure to be taken.

Reported to Shanghai for relay to Peking Nanking and Hankow Crew"  
CAUSE

AAM

(CORRECT COPY T)

Enclosure No. 1 to Report  
entitled "Condition in  
Nanking" dated January 25,  
1938

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE  
5 Minghai Road, December 16th, 1937

Mr. Tokuyasu Fukuda,  
Attache to the Japanese Embassy,  
Nanking.

My dear Sir:

As pointed out by the Major we interviewed with you at the Bank of Communications yesterday noon, it is advisable to have the city return to normal life as soon as possible. But yesterday the continued disorders committed by Japanese soldiers in the Safety Zone increased the state of panic among the refugees. Refugees in large buildings are afraid to even go to nearby soup kitchens to secure the cooked rice. Consequently, we are having to deliver rice to these compounds directly, thereby complicating our problem. We could not even get coolies out to load rice and coal to take to our soup kitchens and therefore this morning thousands of people had to go without their breakfast. Foreign members of the International Committee are this morning making desperate efforts to get trucks through Japanese patrols so these civilians can be fed. Yesterday foreign members of our Committee had several attempts made to take their personal cars away from them by Japanese soldiers. (A list of cases of disorder is appended.)

Until this state of panic is allayed, it is going to be impossible to get any normal activity started in the city, such as: telephone workers, electric plant workers, probably the water plant workers, shops of all kinds, or even street cleaning.

In order to quickly improve this situation, the International Committee respectfully suggests that the Imperial Japanese Army take the following steps at once:

1. Have all searching done by regularly organized squads of soldiers under a responsible officer. (Most of the trouble has come from wandering groups of 3 to 7 soldiers without an officer.)
2. At night, and if possible also in the daytime, have guards at the entrances of the Safety Zone (proposed by the Major yesterday) prevent any stray Japanese soldiers from entering the Safety Zone.

3. Today, give us passes to paste on the windshields of our private cars and trucks to prevent Japanese soldiers from commandeering them. (Even under the stress of defence of the city the Chinese Army Headquarters supplied us with such passes and the cars that were taken before we got the passes were returned to the Committee within 24 hours after our reporting the cases. Furthermore, even in that difficult situation, the Chinese Army assigned to us three trucks to use for hauling rice for feeding civilians. Certainly, the Imperial Japanese Army in full control of the city, with no fighting going on, and with much greater amount of equipment, cannot do less for the Chinese civilians that have now come under their care and protection.)

We refrained from protesting yesterday because we thought when the High Command arrived order in the city would be restored, but last night was even worse than the night before, so we decided these matters should be called to the attention of the Imperial Japanese Army, which we are sure does not approve such actions by its soldiers.

Most respectfully yours,  
(signed) Lewis S. C. Smythe.

(CORRECT COPY T)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

Enclosure No. 1-f to Report  
entitled "Conditions in  
Nanking", dated Jan. 25, 1938.

December 26, 1937

The Imperial Japanese Embassy,  
Nanking.

Dear Sirs:

We present herewith cases numbered 137 to 154. We are glad to report that cases are decline and conditions are much improved. But effort is still needed to clean up the situation.

There are three places that have been having trouble at night, especially: (1) the Bible Teachers Training School Refugee Camp where seven soldiers have come to rape girls the last four nights, last night even spending the night there; (2) Hankow Road Primary School Refugee Camp; and (3) the Wutaishan Primary School Refugee Camp.

Mr. Fitch and I called at your Embassy this afternoon about this matter and asked that military police be stationed at these three places for at least a few nights so as to clear up this situation.

Thanking you for your strenuous efforts to help in these matters and for the improved situation in the zone, I am

Respectfully yours,  
(signed) Lewis S. C. Smythe,  
Secretary.

(CORRECT COPY T)

Enclosure No. 1-g to Report  
entitled "Conditions in  
Nanking", dated Jan. 25, 1938.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

5 Minghai Road, December 30th, 1937.

The Imperial Japanese Embassy,  
Nanking.

For the kind attention of Mr. Fukui or Mr. Tenske.

Dear Sirs:

I am filing with you herewith cases 155 to 164. Most of the ones on the first page, 155 to 160, have been reported to you at least in



brief before. But the four cases on the second page, cases 161 to 164, have come to our attention this noon. Two of them occurred this forenoon. Case Number 164 where a girl of 12 years old was taken away from the Sino-British Cultural Relations Building, is the one on which you can probably do the most good by immediate investigation.

Cases 161 to 163 did not occur within the Zone, but two were on the borders of the Zone. Anyway, such actions in places near the Zone, make it very difficult and dangerous for people to return to their homes.

Thanking you for your courteous patience in receiving these cases and for your prompt attention to them, and especially for the prompt investigation of Case No. 160, I am

Respectfully yours,  
(Signed) Lewis S. C. Smythe,  
Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE  
5 Ninghai Road

December 15th, 1937.

Mr. Tokuyasu Fukuda,  
Attache to the Japanese Embassy,  
Nanking.

Dear Sir:

The International Committee for Nanking Safety Zone is very much perplexed by the problem of soldiers who have thrown away their arms. From the beginning the Committee strove to have this Zone entirely free of Chinese soldiers and up to the afternoon of Monday, December 13th, had achieved considerable success in this respect. At that time several hundred soldiers approached or entered the zone through the northern boundary and appealed to us for help. The Committee plainly told the soldiers that it could not protect them. But we told them if they abandoned their arms and all resistance to the Japanese, we thought the Japanese would give them merciful treatment.

In the confusion and haste of that evening, the Committee was unable to keep the disarmed soldiers separate from civilians, particularly because some of the soldiers had abandoned their military clothing.

The Committee fully recognizes that identified soldiers are lawful prisoners of war. But in dealing with these disarmed soldiers, the Committee hopes that the Japanese Army will use every precaution not to involve civilians. The Committee further hopes that the Japanese Army will in accordance with the recognized laws of war regarding prisoners and for reasons of humanity exercise mercy toward these former soldiers. They might be used to good advantage as laborers and would be glad to return to civilian life if possible.

Most respectfully yours,  
(Signed) John H. D. Rabe

John H. D. Rabe, Chairman

(CORRECT COPY T)

Sub-enclosure to  
Enclosure No. 1-f

FURTHER CASES OF DISORDER BY JAPANESE SOLDIERS IN SAFETY ZONE.

137. Dec. 22. Dr Wilson about 2:00 P. M. found there had been no soldier in his place at 5 Hankow Road for an hour (after Fitch, Smythe and Bates chased them out). But since these men had saved 2 women from raping, Dr. Wilson took the 2 women to the University. When he came back there were 3 soldiers upstairs. Wilson saw one Military Police with two soldiers coming. He called the Military Police who would not go in himself but sent the two soldiers in and finally got the three soldiers out, with sufficient urging from Dr. Wilson. (Wilson) 138. Dec. 22. Japanese soldiers raped two women and looted Mr. Riggs house again today. Again in the evening Japanese soldiers came and raped a woman 53 years old in the house (Riggs)

139. On Dec. 13 a little girl about 11 years old with her father and mother were standing at the entrance to a dugout watching the Japanese soldiers march by. One of the soldiers bayoneted the father, shot the mother and slashed the girl's arm with a bayonet, giving her a bad compound fracture of the elbow. It was a week before she could get to the hospital. No brothers or sisters. (Wilson)

140. Dec. 23. Today Mr. Sperleng had to chase Japanese soldiers away from bothering women at No. 7 Mo Kan Lu three times. (However, he says two Japanese guards have been established on Shansi Road and thinks this makes the situation in this part of town better.) (Sperleng)

141. Dec. 21. During the day one girl age 13 was raped and another who is pregnant was also raped. At night two women were taken away. Looting everything, even bedding all day long. A basket which was filled with both ancient and modern drawings and characters and wedding presents was taken away. However, the order has improved since the notice issued by the military police has been put up. (Wutaishan Primary School Refugee Center)

142. Dec. 22. From 2 to 4 P. M. many soldiers came to take 11 bed covers, much money (altogether one hundred dollars) (Bible Teachers Training School)

143. Dec. 22. Four Japanese soldiers with bayonets came asking for cigarettes. Immediately refugees collected money to buy seven tins of cigarettes for them. The refugees also returned the \$5.00 which the same soldiers gave them the day before. This was all done because the soldiers threatened to set fire to the house. Later 3 Japanese soldiers with rifles asked for wine and the refugees bought two big pitchers of wine for them and four refugees went to carry it for them. Three Japanese soldiers took 3 bicycles and 3 refugees pushed them for them. One came back. Four Japanese soldiers took one rickasha away. Other soldiers visited the camp but no disturbance. (Hankow Road Primary School Refugee Camp.)

144. Dec. 23d. Japanese soldiers continued to rob the people, a drunk soldier hit a refugee on the head and raped a woman. Three or four times soldiers came and took away women. (Wu Tai Shan Primary School Refugees Camp.)

145. Dec. 23d. 8:15 P. M. seven Japanese soldiers took away 4 girls.  
Dec. 24, 9:00 A. M. Japanese soldiers came in three times, each time three or four who troubled the people and at 2:00 P. M. took cloth, money and supplies. (Bible Teachers Training School Refugee Camp.)

146. Dec. 23d, 3:00 P. M. 2 Japanese soldiers came to the Hankow Primary School Refugee Camp searching for property and then raped a Miss Hwang of the staff. It was immediately reported to the Japanese Special Service Military Police. The sent Military Police to get the soldiers who had left, so they took the girl to their office and held her as witness. The same evening, other Japanese soldiers came and raped Mrs. Wang's daughter. About 7:00 P. M. 3 other Japanese soldiers raped two young girls one of whom was only 13 years old. (Cheng Te-chen, Head of the Refugees House at Hankow Road Primary School.)

147. Dec. 24. 4 Japanese soldiers took away 12 coolies from the Sanitation office in charge of Mr. Ma, I Ho Road, No. 6 (Fitch)

148. Dec. 25. night 7 Japanese soldiers came to Bible Teachers Training School Refugee Camp and stayed all night. During the day at 9:00 4 soldiers came and at 2:00 3 soldiers came and took cloth and money. (B. T. T. S.) They raped 2 women, one only 12 years old.

149. Dec. 25, 10:00 A. M. Mr. Riggs of our Committee was stopped on Hankow Road by an officer of the Inspection Corps who grabbed, hit, and slapped Mr. Riggs. (See letter of Dec. 20 (Riggs))

150. Dec. 25, 2 buffaloes were taken from the shop yard of the University of Nanking by Japanese soldiers. Place: 11 Hu Chia Tsai Yuen. (Riggs)

151. Dec. 22, two Japanese soldiers raped a refugee girl, aged 13, at the U. of N. Sericulture Building and her mother was hurt when she tried to stop them. Another woman of 28 years was also raped. On the 23d, 4:00 a. m. two girls were taken by Japanese soldiers but Japanese gendarme met them and the Japanese soldiers fled. (H. K. Wu, Sub-Commissioner of Police)

152. Dec. 25, Several Japanese soldiers took away the wheels of two large type fire pump engines at 3:00 p. m. The safety Zone Fire Department had 4 fire engines (cars) and 12 pumps. But in the last ten days nearly all have been taken by the Japanese soldiers. The pumps we have now are either destroyed or without wheels. Only one pump is usable. (Y. H. Tung, Head of Police Dept.)

153. Dec. 25. A 15 year old girl, Miss Li, was taken away by Japanese office and two soldiers from 14 Kuleo Hsin Tsun. (C. Y. Hsu)

154. Dec. 26. 4:00 p. m. A girl 13 years old was raped by 3 Japanese soldiers at Chen Chia Snai No. 6. (Wang)

Filed Dec. 26th, 6:00 p. m. By Lewis S. C. Smythe with Mr. Fukui.

Sub-enclosure No. 1  
Enclosure No. 8-10  
Nanking, January 7, 1937

Mr. Tokuyasu Fukuda,  
Japanese Embassy,  
Nanking.

Dear Mr. Fukuda,

With reference to our conversation of yesterday afternoon, I wish to assure you that the International Committee desires earnestly the earliest possible restoration of order and normal conditions of life in Nanking. To this end the Committee would, I am sure, be glad to see the local Self-Government Association assume as speedily as possible all the usual functions of a local civic administration: policing, fire protection, sanitation, at cetera. The International Committee, as I am quite certain, has no desire whatsoever to carry on any of these administrative duties which are normally assumed by competent local administrations.

Our Committee is primarily, and indeed I might say solely, a relief organization, formed for the special purpose of caring for civilians suffering from war conditions. Everywhere the lot of such people is recognized as so pitiable as to command sympathy and compassion. Several Committees with similar purpose have been formed during the present crisis, and to one of them, the Shanghai Committee, General Matsui himself made a contribution of ten thousand dollars, thus showing the approval by the highest Japanese military authorities of the work of such Committees.

Since the funds and supplies given to our Committee were entrusted to it for the specific purpose above mentioned, it seems to me that a special obligation rests upon our Committee to discharge this trust to the best of its ability. I do not feel therefore that we should turn over our funds or supplies to any other organizations. We would be glad to cooperate with other organizations in the relief work, as we are now doing with the Red Swastika and the Red Cross, but we should carry full responsibility for the use to be made of our own resources. I am sure that you yourself will see the reasonableness of this position.

Furthermore, I may point out that our funds and supplies are very limited when compared with the need that exists. Even at best all that our Committee can do should be but a mere supplementation of a much larger and more adequate program which I personally hope the local Self-Government Association will undertake. Our Committee can do its bit, as the Red Cross and the Red Swastika are now doing, but we trust that the Self-Government Association will do much more than our own Committee or than either of these other groups. We hope also that the Japanese military authorities will cooperate, even more liberally than they are now doing, with the Self-Government Association in the provision of food and fuel for the refugees. Even so the combined efforts of all agencies will scarcely overtake the need.

In closing let me say one thing more. It is evident that the simplest and at the same time the most effective relief measure would be the restoration of order and discipline among the soldiers. Until this is done the people cannot go back to their homes, business cannot be carried on, communications cannot be restored, nor public services such as



water, lights, and telephone be resumed. Everything waits on this one matter. But in proportion as discipline is restored, the relief problem will become easier, and the re-establishment of normal conditions be made more feasible. I earnestly hope that the military authorities will make this restoration of order their first concern.

Believe me, with kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) John H. D. Rabe

John H. D. Rabe

TRUE READING  
CODE GRAY  
CODED BY AAM

January 27, 1938

AMEMBASSY  
HANKOW

SECSTATE  
WASHINGTON

AMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

AMCONSUL  
SHANGHAI

39 January 27, 10, a. m.

It is has been reported that Chinese planes dropped bombs in the vicinity of the airfield yesterday morning which set on fire some buildings. No planes were seen by members of Embassy staff nor was any anti-aircraft fire audible.

Sent to Embassy Hankow. Repeated to Department Peiping and Shanghai. Shanghai please repeat to Tokyo.

ALLISON

TRUE READING  
CODE GRAY  
DECODED BY JMA

February 1, 1938

AMEMBASSY  
NANKING

AMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

AMEMBASSY  
HANKOW

January 31, 9, p. m.

Following from Tokyo "60 January 31, 5, p. m. My 53 January 26, 5, p. m. Confidential.

(1) The Military attache was confidentially informed today at the War Office that General Honma had proceeded to China as a representative of Imperial Headquarters and carried instructions from Imperial Headquarters to General Matsui with regard to the prevention of acts violative of foreign rights and interests.

(2) According to the War Office one of the measures being devised to assure against violations of foreign rights and interests in the stationing of officers of Field Rank at various points in China where there are concentrations of Japanese troops. Lieutenant Colonel Hirota, who is to be one of these officers, is to proceed to Nanking where he will be stationed under General Matsui.

Repeated to Shanghai for repetition to Nanking and Hankow GREW"  
CAUSS

TRUE READING  
CODE GRAY  
DECODED BY AAM  
AMEMBASSY  
HANKING

CR 350  
830

February 13, 1938

February 12, 2, p. m.

I repeat for your information following telegram from the Department as well as Tokyo's 75 February 4, 12, noon and Department's 33 February 2, 5, p. m. to Tokyo: from the Department "59 February 7, 6, p. m. Tokyo's 75 February 4, 12, noon which was repeated to Shanghai.

Please instruct circular instructions to endeavor to furnish the Embassy at Tokyo with the specific data mentioned in the last paragraph of Tokyo's telegram under reference.

In this connection the Department has informed Tokyo as follows:"

"The Department approves of the supplementary oral representations made by you.

The Department is asking the Embassy at Hankow to endeavor to furnish you with the specific data mentioned in the last paragraph of your telegram under reference.

The Department considers that there should be kept in mind the distinction between representations of a general character such as those to which your telegram under reference refers and which seek observance of principles covering the two points enumerated in the Department's #26 of February 2, 5, p. m. and reports that deal with the concrete settlement of specific cases. As some of the evidence which you may have occasion to present to the Foreign Office in support of your general representations may also be concerned with that for which a local settlement is being sought between contracting parties the presentation of which to the Japanese Government for main settlement must await investigation and examination, it is believed that you should make this point clear to the Foreign Office in order to avoid possible misunderstanding. HULL" From Tokyo "75 February 4, 12, noon Department's 33 February 2, 5, p. m. looting of American property by Japanese forces in China.

(one) I handed a formal note to the Minister of Foreign Affairs at nine o'clock this morning reviewing the reports of depredations and presenting the substance of the final paragraph of the Department's instructions.

(two) Having received from the Department no comment on my supplementary oral representations made to the Minister for Foreign Affairs \_\_\_\_\_ (17) our 34 January 17, 1p. m. enroute I assume that they were not disapproved and I therefore took an equally strong attitude in my talk with Hirota today. I told him that the data which I was now presenting in our note effectually disproved the reports which had come to me from Japanese sources that we were depending upon Chinese information for our information and I said that we were now giving certain precise dates on which looting had been observed by American Citizens. I spoke of the steady mounting evidence of Japanese depredations which was coming before the American public; that the inflammable effect of this evidence should not be overlooked or minimized and that the patience of the American people was not inexhaustible. I said to the Minister once again in strong

terms that I was becoming increasingly disturbed at the situation and the future outlook for Japanese American relations. I asked the Minister for a precise statement which I might convey to my Government in reply to its assumptions and expectations of assurances.

(three) The Minister said that the strictest possible instructions had gone out from General Headquarters to be handed down to all Commanders in China to the effect that these depredations must cease and that Major General Homma had been sent to Nanking to investigate and to ensure compliance. Hirota said that he confidentially expects the immediate cessation of such looting. He furthermore authorized me to inform you that in the light of the investigations now being carried out full indemnification will be made for losses and damages inflicted.

(four) With regard to reports of the desecration of the American flag detailed account said that the Japanese Authorities had as yet been unable to confirm these reports.

I trust that the Department will arrange that I be furnished with specific data preferably supported by affidavits from American citizens. In this connection please see my 16 January 28, 20, a. m. paragraph number two" Department's 33 to Tokyo "Following is the Department's telegram number 33 February 2, 5, p. m. to me" With reference to Shanghai's 143 of January 26, 5, p. m. reporting looting of American property at Soochow and Hangchow the Department transmits for your information the following telegram received from W. G. Chan General Secretary Board of Missions W. E. Church South: "Bishop Arthur J. Moore in charge missions of Methodist Episcopal South in China writes from Shanghai that he has visited Soochow where we have large holdings including Soochow University and Laura Hagood School for girls. He reports all buildings looted four buildings bombed Japanese occupying others using one chapel of Laura Hagood as horse stable. He has protested to American Consul Shanghai and advises we make representation to you. I respectfully request you take such action as you deem advisable and effective".

These two telegrams are merely illustrative of the numerous complaints that are being received by the Department of the utter disregard shown by Japanese armed forces for American property in China.

Department desires that you address a formal note to the Foreign Office as under instructions from your government calling attention to these numerous incidents as illustrated by these and other reports which have been sent to you and stating that your government finds it impossible to reconcile these lawless acts directed against American Missionary properties with the assurances repeatedly given by the Japanese Government that American property and interests in China will be in the future respected by the armed forces of the Japanese Government; that it appears that these incidents have occurred with the knowledge and some indeed in the presence of Japanese officials while others such as the occupancy of mission properties by Japanese troops were presumably by the explicit direction of military officers; that; that arbitrary entry and occupation together with pilfering looting and wanton destruction of property can in no sense be regarded as acts of a character to be expected from a properly controlled military organization; that \_\_\_\_\_ assumes that the Japanese Government in no way approves or condones such lawlessness and expects assurances from the Japanese Government (one) that it will take immediate and specific steps to put an end to the depredations of American properties and (two) that it will make full and complete indemnification for all losses and damages inflicted HULL:G.ELW

Please be guided by instructions contained in the Department's telegram 59 February 7, 6, p. m. in providing Tokyo with specific data mentioned in its 75 February 4, 12, noon.

JOHNSON

800  
AAM

TRUE READING  
CODE GRAY  
CODED BY AAM

February 18 4, p. m.

AMEMBASSY  
HANKOW

SECSTATE  
WASHINGTON

AMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

AMERICAN CONSUL  
SHANGHAI

61 February 18, 4, p. m.

I am pleased to be able to report that within the past few days there has been a noticeable improvement in conditions in Nanking. Most of the Chinese are returning from the so-called "Safety Zone" to their former homes in other parts of the city. While reports still come in from time to time of disorder and unlawful acts of Japanese soldiers, the number of such reports has materially decreased and there is definite evidence that the Japanese authorities are making efforts to better the present living conditions of the local population. Restrictions on movements of foreigners are gradually being loosened, and permission has recently been obtained for the return to Nanking of an American doctor whose presence is urgently needed at the Nanking University Hospital, an American institution.

Sent to Embassy Hankow. Repeated to the Department, Peiping and Shanghai. Shanghai please repeat to Tokyo.

ALLISON

JMA/aam

NAVAL RADIO  
CAjr  
SENT: NANKING  
March 12, '38

GOVT STATE

SECSTATE  
WASHINGTON

AMEMBASSY  
HANKOW

AMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

AMCONSUL  
SHANGHAI

No. 73, March 11, 6:00 P. M.

Chinese planes reportedly dropped a few bombs on Nanking military airfield yesterday afternoon and conducted another raid on the field this morning PERIOD Japanese military here are apparently unwilling to furnish information concerning such raids COMMA overcast skies yesterday and today prevented foreign observation COMMA and details are accordingly lacking.

ATCHESON

CAjr/JMD

TELEGRAM SENT

March 16, 1938

TRUE READING  
CODE GRAY  
CODED BY JMD

AMEMBASSY  
HANKOW

SECSTATE  
WASHINGTON

AMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

AMCONSUL  
SHANGHAI



No. 78, March 16, 11:00 A. M.

During an informal conversation yesterday evening with a Japanese official the question of foreign rights and interests in China came up for discussion and I was given the following information said to be typical of the viewpoint of highranking army officers in China on this question. My informant said that at a dinner he attended given on March 13th, by Lieutenant General Fujita, the new commander-in-chief in this area, General Fujita had stated it was his opinion that there was no reason the Japanese army should give any consideration to foreign rights and interests as long as the foreign governments continued to give encouragement and assistance to Japan's enemy, namely, the government of Chiang Kai-shek. He is said to have added that it might be necessary to respect foreign rights already established but that in the future foreign interests should be disregarded unless the various nations changed their present attitude towards Japan's activities in China. Reference was made to the displeasure of the army at western nations providing China with military supplies and I pointed out that while it is true that military supplies are being sold to China, they are also being sold to Japan and that any attempt to restrict the sales of munitions to but one party to a dispute would be equivalent to taking sides, which was not the desire of the United States.

It is perhaps interesting to note that during the course of this conversation my informant referred on several occasions to the action of Hitler in Austria and stated that this action had been a great encouragement to the Japanese in carrying on their activities in China.

Sent to Embassy Hankow. Repeated to the Department, Peiping and Shanghai. Shanghai please repeat to Tokyo.

ALLISON

## TELEGRAM RECEIVED

TRUE READING  
from AMCONSUL TSINGTAO  
CODE: GRAY  
DECODED BY: JMD

APRIL 14, 1938  
NAVAL RADIO

SECSTATE AMEMBASSY  
WASHINGTON HANKOW

AMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

AMEMBASSY  
NANKING

April 13, 3:06 P. M.

Report dated April 11, from reliable American in Tsinanfu states press reports concerning street fighting in Tsinanfu absolutely false. Arrest of plain clothes man on April 6, probably gave rise to rumors. No fighting has occurred near Tsinanfu since Japanese occupation. All Americans in Tsinanfu safe as are believed to be those in Southern Shantung who, however, are isolated.

Sent to the Sent to the Department. (Repeated to) Hankow, Peiping and Nanking.

GOURLEY

800-Street fighting in Tsinanfu  
JMD

TRUE READING

FROM: AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

APRIL 26, 1938

NAVAL RADIO

SECSTATE  
WASHINGTONAMEMBASSY  
NANKINGAMEMBASSY  
HANKOWAMEMBASSY  
PEIPING

No. 580, April 26, 9:00 A. M.

Two American missionaries for whom passes were obtained at the end of March to return to Soochow have just returned to Shanghai at the request of the Japanese military authorities in Soochow. The latter informed them that military reasons necessitated this request which it was stated was made upon instructions received from the highest military authorities in Shanghai.

The missionaries concerned described the situation in Soochow as ominously tense because of the presence of large Chinese Guerrilla units outside the city, the rumored presence of several thousand guerrillas inside the city, the rumored presence of several thousand guerrillas inside the city and a greatly reduced Japanese garrison; they expressed the opinion that the tense situation prevailing in and around Soochow made the request of the military authorities not unreasonable.

Sent to the Department. Repeated to Hankow, Peiping and Nanking.

LOCKHART

800-Sino-Japanese Conflict  
JMD

NAVAL RADIO

JMD

FROM: PEIPING

RECD: NANKING

MAY 27, 1938

PLAIN

SECSTATE WASHINGTON  
AMEMBASSY HANKOW  
AMEMBASSY NANKING  
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

329 May 27, 3 p. m.

ONE The Japanese spokesman stated this morning that (1) a Japanese column is approaching Kweichow from the east and is expected to capture that city within a few days, (2) the Japanese expect to capture shortly Koochen, 8 miles northeast of Lanfeng, (3) the Chinese are obstinately attacking Japanese troops between Kefeng and Lanfeng and at a point north of Lanfeng but are being repulsed and (4) Lanfeng which was bombed yesterday by Chinese planes is actually surrounded by the Chinese who have taken position some distance away at various places including Kweichow but Doihara (whose troops are presumably there) is one of the best Japanese strategists and will be able to extricate himself.

TWO Sent to Department. Repeated to Embassy Hankow, Nanking, Amconsul Shanghai. By mail to Tokyo.

SALISBURY

SENT BY NANKING:  
NAVAL RADIO  
GRAY

December 12, 1938; 10 a. m.

SUBJECT: Chinese bombers over Nanking

AMERICAN CONSUL  
SHANGHAI

December 12, 9 a. m.

My December 8, noon, regarding Chinese planes at Nanking.

Reports continue to be received that Chinese planes are seen flying over the city and that they have dropped bombs in Hsia Kwan. An American informant confirms that a number of detonations have been heard recently along the river but he is of the opinion that the sounds are caused by Japanese operations directed against the guerrillas north of the Yangtze.

Shortly after six p. m., December 11, an air raid alarm was sounded in Nanking but the all clear signal followed in a very few minutes.

COOPER

CAC; pfc